

Patent Claims

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1. A method for updating subscriber-related data records, which are stored locally in a number of service devices (IP, OCANEQ) in a switching network, characterized in that administrative measures are taken to ensure that, for each data record which is stored in one of the service devices (IP, OCANEQ), a list is kept of the addresses of the other service devices (IP, OCANEQ) which likewise keep this data record, in that each data record can be addressed in a standard manner throughout the network, and in that a change, initiated by the customer, to the data record is carried out on one, and only one, of the service devices (IP, OCANEQ) which keep that data record, and this service device (IP, OCANEQ) reports this change throughout the network to the other service devices (IP, OCANEQ).
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the service devices are included in the peripherals of a communications system (OCANEQ).
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the service devices are included in the network nodes of a switching network.
4. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the lists are updated in the course of administration of the switching network or of the communications system.

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5. The method as claimed in claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the old data record is kept available until the initiation of the network-wide or switching-center-wide updating by the customer.
6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the data record is updated by those service devices (IP, OCANEQ) which initially have the new data record, in the course of a background process for successive updating of the other service devices (IP, OCANEQ).
7. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that repeated cyclic updating attempts are carried out in the background process if the service devices (IP, OCANEQ) to be updated are inaccessible or the attempts are unsuccessful.
8. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that use is made, when required, of connections which have been made temporarily between the service devices (IP, OCANEQ) in order to update the data records.
9. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that an update-specific communication takes place between the service devices (IP, OCANEQ) via a switching-center-internal message distribution system (MB) or, throughout the network, via ISDN

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user-to-user signaling, or switching-center internally and throughout the network via the Internet Protocol.

10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a number of data records are updated via one updating connection once it has been connected.
11. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the updating format is defined in the course of the communication between the service devices (IP, OCANEQ).
12. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the time required for updating is reduced by multiple channel connection and/or multiple starting of the background process.
13. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the customer allocates a time stamp to the update in order to prevent the current data record from being overwritten by older data records when a number of updating background processes are carried out at the same time.
14. The method as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized

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in that explicit activation of the background processes of service devices (IP, OCANEQ) which are still in operation is carried out in order to update service devices (IP, OCANEQ) which are being taken back into operation again after repair, without delay and quickly.

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